



Westminster Presbyterian Church
A Service for the Worship of God
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 4, 2020

We Gather in God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Deb Jones

I was glad when they said,
Let us go into the house of the Lord!

Interlude

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Welcome to this ancient place:

**People: At home or in the sanctuary, this is a place of prayer and song and quiet;
a home to all who come.**

Leader: Welcome to this gathering place:

People: Friend and stranger, saint and sinner in all who gather together.

Leader: Come with hope or hesitation; come with joy or yearning;

Welcome all who hunger, all who thirst for life in its fullness.

People: At home or in the sanctuary, may God touch us and inspire us and fill us today.

***Opening Prayer**

***Hymn #482**

“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

LOBE DEN HERREN

*Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!*

*Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?*

*Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.*

Call to Confession

Repentance requires honesty. Honesty with oneself to acknowledge our sin. Honesty with God to confess our sin. Dropping all pretenses, let us make our confession to God:

Jesus, forgive our sin. Forgive the sins we can remember, and the ones that we have forgotten. Forgive the wrong deeds that I have committed, and the right actions I have forgotten to do. Forgive us when we're too proud of our achievements, and the times we failed to boast of your good works through others. Forgive our too quick and harsh judgments of others without knowing the facts, and the leniency we show ourselves. Have pity on us, forgive us, and make us whole through Christ's love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 4:21-22, 27-28
31:31-34

²¹How long must I see the standard,
and hear the sound of the trumpet?

²²“For my people are foolish,
they do not know me;
they are stupid children,
they have no understanding.

They are skilled in doing evil,
but do not know how to do good.”

²⁷For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.

²⁸Because of this the earth shall mourn,
and the heavens above grow black;
for I have spoken, I have purposed;
I have not relented nor will I turn back.

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is my blood of the^[a] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Can the Center Hold?"

Rev. Jim Caprell

We Respond to God's Word

***Hymn 520**

"Here, O Our Lord "

sung to tune: Hymn #326

*Here, O our Lord, I see You face to face;
Here would we touch and handle things unseen,
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
And all our weariness upon You lean.*

*We have no help but Yours, nor do we need
Another arm save Yours to lean upon.
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed;
Our strength is in Your might, Your might alone.*

*This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for us spread:
Here let us feast, and, feasting, still prolong
The fellowship of living wine and bread.*

*Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear.
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but You are here,
Nearer than ever, still our shield and sun.*

Call to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow, Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation To the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn #514**

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

LINSTEAD

*Let us talents and tongues employ,
Reaching out with a shout of joy:
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.*

*Refrain:
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

*Christ is able to make us one.
At the table He sets the tone,
Teaching people to live to bless,
Love in word and in deed express. [Refrain]*

*Jesus calls us in, sends us out
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Organist: Claire Kuhl

Vocalist: Elizabeth Watkins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please welcome Reverend Jim Caprell to our pulpit today.

Jim is born and reared in Aiken, SC. He's a graduate of Wofford College and Columbia Seminary. He has served churches in northeast Tennessee, and in Simpsonville, SC and now serves as Chaplain to the Presbyterian Community in Clinton, SC.

Jim is active in Foothills Presbytery, having served as moderator, along with chair of several committees, He enjoys playing his dulcimer when he can, reading, hiking and watching college basketball (he follows the Terriers and Tar Heels). He's married to his college sweetheart Holly, a Converse College graduate, and they have two adult sons and daughters-in-law and one adorable grandson.

Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers today are given by Dave and Beth Hammond in memory of their mothers.